

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 16  
ANSWERED ON 2<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY, 2023**

**USE OF SUBSTANDARD CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL**

**†\*16. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR:**

**Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS**

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

**be pleased to state:**

- a) whether the Government has taken any legal action against the agencies found using substandard construction material in the construction work of National Highways (NHs) in the country and if so, the details thereof;**
- b) whether the Government has carried out any inspection/survey of the quality of material being used in the construction work of Bakhtiyarpur-Rajauli NH-20 in Nalanda district and if so, the details thereof;**
- c) whether the Government proposes to order an inquiry against the concerned construction agency allegedly involved in such substandard construction work and if so, the details thereof; and**
- d) whether protection of the trees for conservation of environment is being considered during the construction of the said Highway and if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS**

**(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)**

**(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 16 ANSWERED ON 02.02.2023 ASKED BY SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR REGARDING USE OF SUBSTANDARD CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL**

**(a) All efforts are made to ensure that the National Highways (NHs) are constructed as per quality standards specified in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways / Indian Roads Congress (IRC) specifications and codes. Unless the roads are constructed as per the specifications, the contracts are not treated as complete. To ensure the construction quality, Consultants (Authority's Engineer/ Independent Engineer), Quality Monitors are appointed by the Ministry and its executing agencies for day to day supervision of the works at site. Deficiencies, if any, observed during such examination / supervision are brought to the notice of the Concessionaires / Contractors for taking up necessary corrective measures.**

**(b) and (c) A team of Independent Engineer appointed by NHAI for the project "Construction of Bakhtiyarpur-Rajauli section of NH-20 under Nalanda district" regularly checks and tests the quality of materials used in construction of the project. Officials of NHAI also undertake inspections on interim basis and ensure adherence of conformity of quality of materials used in construction as well as the work done by the Concessionaire with stipulated requirements.**

**(d) The alignment of the project has been finalised keeping into account minimal tree cutting along the stretch. The scope of work under the project includes adoption of eco-friendly methodologies as per Ministry's specifications/ Indian Roads Congress (IRC) codes for conservation of the environment, undertaking of transplantation of trees as per the recommendations of the Forest Department as well as planting of trees in road side area and medians of completed projects.**

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